

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1087

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR CH VN CB
SUBJ: PEKING CELEBRATES CAMBODIAN NATIONAL DAY

1. THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE PRESENT CAMBODIAN REGIME
WAS CELEBRATED IN PEKING WITH A FILM RECEPTION GIVEN BY
THE SINO-CAMBODIAN FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION APRIL 16
AND A CAMBODIAN EMBASSY RECEPTION THE FOLLOWING EVENING.
CHOU EN-LAI'S WIDOW TENG YING-CHAO WAS GUEST OF HONOR
AT THE FIRST AFFAIR, WHILE THE CHINESE WERE REPRESENTED
AT THE EMBASSY RECEPTION BY VICE PREMIER AND POLITBURO
MEMBER YU CHIU-LI, TENG YING-CHAO, AND FOREIGN MINISTER
HUANG HUA. WHILE THE LEVEL OF CHINESE ATENDANCE AT
THESE RECEPTIONS CORRESPONDS TO LAST YEAR, IT IS
PERHAPS NOTEWORTHY THAT THIS YEAR NO HIGH-RANKING CHINESE
MILITARY FIGURES WERE PRESENT. LAST YEAR'S EMBASSY RECEPTION

WAS ATTENDED BY VICE PREMIER CHEN HSI-LIEN,
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THE PEKING MILITARY REGION COMMANDER, AND FORMER
MARSHAL HSU HSIANG-CHIEN, WHO HAS IN THE MEANTIME
BEEN NAMED DEFENSE MINISTER. IN 1976 THE GUEST OF
HONOR WAS PARTY VICE CHAIRMAN AND DEFENSE MINISTER
YEH CHIEN-YING.

2. AMBASSADOR PICH CHEANG DEVOTED ALMOST HALF HIS

TOAST TO AN EXTENDED DENUNCIATION OF "IMPERIALISTS, EXPANSIONISTS, ANNEXATIONISTS AND THEIR FOLLOWERS" WHO HAVE "ESPECIALLY SINCE 1975" CARRIED ON AGGRESSION AGAINST CAMBODIA IN PURSUIT OF THEIR "SINISTER STRATEGY OF AN INDOCHINA FEDERATION". PICH CHEANG ALSO NOTED THAT THE "ENEMY" HAVE "CARRIED OUT SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES AIMING SEVERAL TIMES AT STAGING COUPS D'ETAT." CAMBODIAN FORCES HAD NEVERTHELESS REPULSED ALL ATTEMPTS AND WOULD NEVER ALLOW THEIR COUNTRY TO BECOME A "SATELLITE OR SLAVE" OF ANY OTHER NATION. VIRTUALLY ALL OF THESE REMAKRS WERE EXCISED FROM NCNA'S ACCOUNT OF THE RECEPTION, WHICH REFERRED ONLY TO UNSPECIFIED VICTORIES IN DEFENDING NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND TO THE FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE, PARTY AND GOVERNMENT FOR CAMBODIA.

3. HUANG HUA IN HIS REPLY REFERRED BRIEFLY TO CAMBODIA'S DEFENSE OF ITS INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, AND TO THE "SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES AND SABOTAGE OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN ENEMIES." THE BALANCE OF HIS TOAST, HOWEVER, WAS TAKEN UP BY CONGRATULATIONS ON CAMBODIA'S ECONOMIC PREGRESS AND BOILER PLATE ON SINO-CAMBOAIAN FRIENDSHIP.

4. COMMENT: WHILE WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT CHINA
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CONTIUES TO SUPPORT CAMBODIA IN ITS DISPUTE WITH VIETNAM, IT APPEARS THAT THE PRC HAS ADOPTED A LOW PROFILE ON THE MILITARY ASPECTS OF THE SINO-KHMER RELATIONSHIP.
WOODCOCK

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